

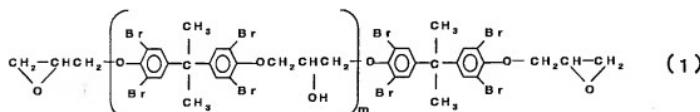
## In the Claims

Please amend Claim 1. Add new Claims 7 and 8. The changes are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter and underlining for added matter. A complete listing of the claims is set out below with proper claim identifiers.

1. (Currently Amended) A flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair, formed from 100 parts by weight of (A) a polyester made of one or more of polyalkylene terephthalate or a copolymer polyester comprising polyalkylene terephthalate as a main component, 5 to 30 parts by weight of (B) a brominated epoxy based flame retardant and 0.05 to 1 parts by weight of (C) a reaction accelerator which accelerates the reaction between terminal carboxylic acid group of the component (A) and epoxy group of the component (B).

2. (Original) The flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair according to claim 1, wherein the component (A) is at least one polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polypropylene terephthalate and polybutylene terephthalate.

3. (Previously Presented) The flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair according to claim 1, wherein the component (B) is a flame retardant represented by the following general formula (1),



wherein m represents 0 to 100.

4. (Previously Presented) The flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair according to any of claim 1, wherein the component (C) is metal salt of organic carboxylic acid having 6 to 32 carbon atoms and/or a phosphite based compound.

5. (Previously Presented) The flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair according to any of claim 1, wherein the flame retardant polyester fiber is formed by air-cooling melt spinning process.

6. (Previously Presented) The flame retardant polyester fiber according to any of claim 1, which has a monofilament size of 10 to 80 dtex.

7. (New) The flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair according to claim 1, wherein the component (C) is metal salt of organic carboxylic acid having 6 to 32 carbon atoms.

8. (New) The flame retardant polyester fiber for artificial hair according to claim 7, wherein the metal salt of organic carboxylic acid having 6 to 32 carbon atoms is at least one component selected from the group consisting of metal salts of caproic acid, caprylic acid, capric acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, arachidic acid, behenic acid, lignoceric acid, and montanic acid.